

Father caught you smoking his cigars, did he? And what do, lick you?"
No; wish he had."
What then?"

The Story of a Woman's Fealty.

Curious Coincidence.

"And you dear old school-fellow!"

"And your dear old school-fellow!" nickname name," remarked Fanks, as they shook hands heartily. "What a coincidence! Yes, I am sure I am. It is only the mountains that have met."

"Ten years ago," said Axton, resuming his seat with a sigh. "Ten years ago!"

"And it seems like yesterday," observed Octavius, smiling. "Strange that I should meet little Axton a Jarchester, of all places in the world! What brought you here, old boy?"

"My own legs," said Roger, comfortably. "I'm in the poet trade, and have been trying to draw inspiration from nature during a walking tour. Of course, I am a little rusty on my rhapsodies about Shelley and Keats at school. So you've followed in the footsteps. Roger. 'The Cid,' the father of the man. 'That's Bible, isn't it?'"

"I've got a hazy idea that Wordsworth said something like it," responded Axton, dryly. "Yes, I'm poet. And you?"

"I like to prove to your poetry. I study nature, I study man."

"Taken Pope's advice, no doubt," said Axton.

"No; not a paying line nowadays. Overworked."

"A school-master?"

"Worse still. We can't all be Arnold."

"Let us say a philomath?"

"No, indeed. Fanks is a chatuant?"

No, indeed. Fanks, like Axton, repeated Axton, struck with a sudden idea, and pushing his chair away from that of his companion. "Why do you sit there, down here about that—that suicide?"

"What wonderful penetration!" said Octavius, laughing. "How do you hit upon that idea, my friend?"

Of course Axton's hand went up to his temples, and he laughed in an uneasy manner.

"Circumstantial evidence," he said at last, hurriedly. "The bar-maid told me that a London detective called names were down here on the corner of the—the suicide, and allowing for her misuse of the name, and your unexpected presence here, I struck me—"

"That must be the man," finished Fanks, shooting a keen glance at the somewhat careworn face of his school friend. "Well, you are perfectly right. I am Octavius Fanks, of course. You are the friend of my former Octavius Bixton, of nowhere particular, Ilder. You don't seem to relish the idea of my being a blood-thirsty of the law?"

"I don't think I certainly don't see why a detective shouldn't be as respectable as any other man. Still."

"There's a kind of Doctor Fell dislike towards him," responded Octavius, with a shrug.

"I don't know," thought Octavius enough, though intense and ridiculous. People always seem to be afraid of a detective. I don't know why, unless, may be, it's their guilty conscience."

"Their conscience?" faltered Axton, with an obvious effort.

"I said 'their guilty conscience,'" corrected Fanks, with emphasis. "I've got all about it. Roger. But first let me have a look at your face, and let me have a look at your looks as the man of seven-and-twenty."

Reluctantly—very reluctantly, Roger Axton did as he was requested, and when the yellow light shone full on his face, the detective stared at him, with the keen look of one accustomed to read every line of a face, whether it be light, or shadow, or the features of his fellow-men, and skilled to understand the meanings thereof.

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It was a handsome young

"You are so frivolous a kind, who can call between and my haplessness. Well, there's nothing more to tell. After all, my rejection I left Ventnor for London, and ultimately came down here on a walking tour."

"You have not seen Miss Vaseline since, I suppose?"

Again Roger turned away his head, and again the action is noted by the narrator.

"No," replied Axton, in a low voice. "I—I have not seen her since."

"Lie number two," thought Octavius, wonderingly. "What does it all mean? So far, so good. No correspondence with her?" he asked, aloud.

"No! Confound it, Fanks, don't put me in the witness box," cried Roger, rising to his feet.

"Octavius, my dear old fellow," said Octavius, peevishly, "it's a habit I've got. A very bad one, I'm afraid. Well, I hope things will go well with you and the marriage with Miss Vaseline."

Roger, who was walking rapidly up and down the long room, now vanishing into the chill shadow, now emerging into the warm lamp-light, stopped at the south end of the room and flung up his arms with a low cry of anguish.

"Never! never!" he cried, bitterly. "I shall never marry her."

"But, Roger, you do seem to me to have heard him," said Octavius sympathetically, "but hope for the best. Horry will marry her patent medicine man and forget the scamp, Judith will marry the scoundrel and forget her scamp, so things will come out all straight and the long run."

"I hope so," said Ashton, resuming his seat, rather ashamed of his emotional outburst. "But I don't know what is going at present. Ah, well, it's no use fighting Destiny. Do you remember the grim view old Sophocles takes of that entity?" A classic Juggernaut of Fate, he said, "I have seen it, and I won't be one of her victims, but I'm doubtful. However, now I've told you my story, what about your own?"

"But I don't know," replied lightly. "Bless you, Roger, I'm like Countess de Rixton, I've got none to tell. A poor, impoverished country gentleman—my father's name, I remember—so that there were put into the army, the navy, the church, and all that sort of thing, so when my turn came to make a debut in life there was nothing left for me to do but to go to London."

He then, in a low, confidential tone, suggested the colonies, that refuge for destitute younger sons, but he didn't care about turning digger or sheep-farmer, and positively refused to be exiled to any one of the colonies. He would, and made my choice. Being fond of puzzles and cryptograms, he thought I would turn my ingenuity in unravelling enigmas to practical use, and I became a seaman and detective. The family cast me off; however, I didn't mind that. I left off the name of Rixton, and took that of Fanks—my old name, I thought, and I thought it was a disgraceful disgrace the Rixtons of Derbyshire. Being a gentleman doesn't mean bread and butter in these democratic days, and though my pedigree's a good one, it will be of no use to me as useless in a commercial sense. Besides, the detective business is just as honorable as any other, and also very exciting, so I don't regret having gone to sea, and I'm well paid, also, and I'm *la suite* me."

"Is your father reconciled to you yet?"

"Oh, yes, in a sort of way; but the Victorian business sticks in his throat, and he can't swallow it. However, I visit the paternal acres sometimes, and no one thinks Octavius Rixton gentleman has anything to do with crime, and I mean to be a detective."

"And you like your profession?"

"I adore it. Mystery has a wonderful charm for me, and I have a wonderful, a marvelous fascination for it. I have a very strong nature. I've had all kinds of queer cases through my hands dealing with the seamy side of humanity, and have been uniformly successful with it. I don't think this affair will be any more than a trifle."

"It's a horrible thing," said Roger, relighting his pipe, which had gone out. "I went for a long walk to-day, so no avoid for a long time."

"Ah, and you poets have no got your nerves."

"I'm afraid not. I detect the verities was suicide."

"Yes, and I don't agree with the verdict."

Roger turned round quickly, and looked straight at his companion who was staring absently at the fire. "I heard?" he said at length. "Why not?"

"Oh! Eh, I don't know; I've got my reasons," replied Fanks, coolly, evidently not wishing to continue the conversation.

"I don't think you're going to let me go, you going to stop here?"

"Just for to-night. I'm off to-morrow."

"So am I, London?"

"No, I'm not going to continue my walking tour."

"Ah, sly dog," cried Fanks, gayly.

"I understand, you are going to look after Roger Vaseline's affairs."

"Roger Vaseline's father lip hard, and replied coldly, in a somewhat sober fashion, neither affirming nor denying the insinuation:

"You don't find her down here, at a venture."

"Oh! Then she's still at Ventnor?"

"No! She and Miss Marston have gone home."

"Dead? And where is home?"

"My dear Fanks, your cross-examination is most trying."

"I beg your pardon," said Octavius, indignantly. "I'm not asking you to answer any important question."

"Nor have you, my dear fellow," cried Axton, cordially. "Don't mind my bad temper. I can't help it. My nerves are all unstrung with this hot and cold of the inquest. There's no reason why I should tell you where Miss Vaseline lives."

"Oh, never mind," said Fanks, in a trifling tone.

"You don't seem to know," said Roger, got offended at nothing.

"Octavius," he replied Roger, in an injured tone; "I will tell you if it's only to make amends for my rudeness. Miss Vaseline lives at Ventnor."

The detective jumped to his feet with a sudden ejaculation, at which Axton also arose, looking pale and alarmed.

"What's the matter, Fanks?" he asked, hurriedly.

For answer, Octavius Fanks drew the pill-box from his pocket, and placing it silently on the table, pointed to the inscription on the lid.

WOSK & CO.
(Chemists, Ironfields.)
(To be continued.)

A woman in a flannel nightgown has in her hand a small, dry, red cloth. She uses a huge captive kite. The sight is said to be very picturesque when table cloths, napkins and red and striped hostelry float from the ceiling.

Master—You shouldn't smoke, Mr. Traveller—That is what my friends say. "But you mustn't smoke, sir." So my doctor tells me. "But you shan't smoke, sir," says that is just what my wife tells me.

dothers, and if the parental home were faithfully discharged, there would be no call for an army of women with organisation oil came to try to stop the creek in the social machine.

It is a poor day that does not bring with it a few new mining companies. Just how many of them are likely to prove holes in the pockets of investors nobody can tell, but the number is not small. When the Comstock lode was exploited about five thousand companies were formed, three hundred did actual work, twenty claims were developed into mines, and of these nine became paying properties. Altogether about \$600,000,000 was taken out of the lode; how many millions were lost in profitless work has never been computed, but the sum would not fall far short of the total output of the lode. A few made millions; thousands dropped their small investments.

In 1907, Warner's new sociological book "American Charities" is calculated the causes of actual cases of poverty in the United States. Britain and Germany. Over 115,000 cases are dealt with. He finds sickness and death in families to be the chief cause. Lack of work is placed second, although if the averages as to lack of work and poorly paid work be added as they might well be it will form the chief cause of poverty. Drink takes third place. Dr. Warner says Intemperance is found to be the cause in one-fifteenth to one-fifth of the cases, and "where an attempt is made to learn in how many cases it had a contributory influence, its presence cannot be traced at all in more than 281 per cent." That is, had enough, but it is not what some one-idea people have been telling us.

In Canada, as in the United States, it is a frequent complaint that Government currency is issued and reissued until it gets into an insanitary condition and becomes a medium for carrying disease germs. The Bank of England has been a note, and the note is a note, but another they are invariably destroyed. Though such waste is unnecessary, better judgment might be shown regarding the release of worn and dirty paper currency.—Globe.

Some of the banks issue new and clean bills for their customers for their own profit, experience having taught them that the people will hold on to new bills, thus keeping them in circulation, while sending old, ragged and dirty bills back to the bank as soon as possible. But the Government, and not the banks, has control of the issue of \$1 and \$2 bills, many of which are required in making change. The new printing contractors should be set to work on a large order for ones and twos, to get ready for a bonfire of the dirty old bills which the public cannot handle without disgust and danger.

John D. Rockefeller appreciates the absurdity of some of our modern tax laws, and however professing piety he may be, he does not scruple to take advantage of them. Asked, in a recent lawsuit, who was the owner of a lease in controversy, he answered that he himself was the real owner. Pressed then to explain why the lease instead of being held in his name was held in the name of a church, he made the following confession: "The reason for that was to escape taxation. If I had held the lease in my name the property would have been taxed. If the church held it, it was exempt from taxation." The judge presiding at the trial thereupon remarked: "If I should decide this case now, I should say that Mr. Rockefeller's part has been a purely benevolent one, and will receive due recognition before a higher forum than this." All which goes to show that it is no very serious matter to industry in a country where the rich, and that dishonesty may even be commended by those who are sworn to see justice done, if the dishonesty brings or saves dollars to the church.

M. de la Poulaine, writing in *La Marine Française* on the difficulty of securing enough recruits for the British navy, says: "England, as is generally known, consists above all of an aristocracy which is everything, of a middle-class that does not amount to much, and of a lower class which is nothing at all. Now, for centuries past the upper English class has been the enemy of privileges which it jealously guards, and which compulsory service, whether in the army or the navy, would entirely destroy. I was once told by an English noble that it might have been possible to organize a kind of compulsory service for the working classes, who might have been, as a result of it, engaged for the longest term, but might have been given some other advantages, such as pensions, for their families or themselves. That system had some good points, especially in a country like England, but whatever may be said to the contrary, the privileged classes have never abused their privileges, and have ever proved generous and compassionate to a large and unknown number of their countrymen. Of course, as their privileges were not cut at stake, but it would not be easy to establish such a system now, for ideas of equality have made their way even in England, and that that iniquitous system will never be resorted to. In case of war, England could not dispose of more than from thirty-five to thirty-six thousand men, the core of a few reserves. The result is that England, in spite of her numerous and enormous vessels, is not much better off than other nations having fewer ships but having the command crews more than adequate to man them, since in time of war the effective strength of her navy afloat would be limited by the inability to find crews."

THE MAIL.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1897.

RETRENCHMENT NEEDED.

Talk to any well versed man in the country you may, and the general acknowledgment is the country is over-governed and partisan politics responsible for the whole of it. What with Federal, provincial and municipal government it is not too much to say every soul in the country is paying from \$5 to \$50 a year more than he should for government. This is from \$5 to \$50 a year more for every head of a family more than it should be, or enough in 10 years to buy a moderately sized property, and yet the extravagance grows apace with but few words of dissent. Speak to a Liberal in opposition and he will acknowledge a high slice of our resources is wasted in useless government expenditures. But the Liberal party into power, and the expenditure in the useless salaries of officers, etc., goes on and there remains but the Tories in turn to find fault. Canada pays more per head in official salaries than any country under the sun, and it all comes out of the pockets of the common tax payer. Ask a farmer, a mechanic or a merchant for from \$25 to \$50 a year for an hospital, an asylum or something of the kind, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred his answer will be he cannot afford it, yet he affords it willingly for useless government expenditures, without a word of dissent. If his friends are in power, and you point out the extravagance to him, and his answer is "yes, but the other fellows are worse," and so it drags along. Now it never occurs to these people there is an infinitely better chance to keep their party in power and reduce these expenditures. Our customs offices, registry offices, etc., etc., have all many more hands than there is work for, if the hours are made as long as ordinary business hours, as they should be, and the people know their money is wasted in them, but they lack, through partisan influences, the courage to make retrenchment with their representatives a necessity. This is where the shoe pinches, and where the whole responsibility rests. If the people would allow politics to take no deeper hold on them than ordinary business matters do, and make retrenchment a necessity with the election of candidates for parliament the cure would soon come. If a member knew he could not be returned again unless he insisted on the free use of the pruning hook, retrenchments would come as sure as the sun rises and sets, and with retrenchment a healthier condition of business affairs. We have in Canada vast areas of fertile lands to be cultivated, vast stores of mineral wealth to be brought to the surface, all waiting for the industry of hundreds of people who are now drawing salaries from the public purse unnecessarily. What the country wants is a class of electors with necessary backbone to insist on the necessary changes, and they will be certain to speedily follow.

ST. BONIFACE.

How the priests can draw much consolation out of the results in St. Boniface it is difficult to understand. In the contest J. B. Laumon, their man, backed by all the influence the church could muster was elected by a majority of 180. Our readers must remember that this constituency is three quarters and more French Catholic, the seat of the Catholic institutions of the country is there, the Catholic college is there and the Archbishop's residence is there. If then Catholic manipulation has an influence anywhere it has it there—in fact the strength there may be taken as a measure of their power in the province. Now in the earlier days of the province before the separate schools were abolished La Riviere used to carry that division as a member of Norquay's cabinet by some 60 of a majority, and in the last Local election when Premiergarst was the white headed boy of the church, and was a flaming opponent of the Local government's school policy he succeeded in defeating this same Laumon by about 80 of a majority, while in the previous contest he succeeded in carrying against an equally strong opponent of Greenway's school policy by one vote.

Under the most favorable circumstances then, it may be set down, the Priests control but from 60 to 80 votes in the constituency of St. Boniface, and a proportionate number relatively in all other constituencies where they have a following. This means that provincially they may be able to control 5 out of the 40 constituencies, and Federally one—Provencher—out of the eight. It is a nice calculation for them on their states to show how this will secure the restoration of separate schools in Manitoba while the rest of the representatives Federally and Provincially say "no." The best thing then the Priests can do is to tamely submit, "kicking against the pricks" will only deprive the growing youth of that denomination of the common school education that is the birth-

right of all.

If there are any particular lessons in our school books to which they object—which they regard as reflecting on the Roman Catholics as a section of our people, every fair minded man in the country would hold up his hands to have them expunged; but if nothing will do but have the Catholic religion taught to the Catholic youth out of Catholic books by Catholic teachers during all the legal hours of the school they are doomed to disappointment. They were never guaranteed such privileges by the constitution, though they were given them by the provincial legislature in 1871, and they can never be restored.

There is a strong admixture of nonsense in all this noise about the service to the Northwest farmer of protective duties on wheat. It must be as clear to any man as the nose on his face that when wheat is bought on both sides of the line on an export basis, as it generally is in the States, excepting the difference on freights one country has no advantage over the other, as the surpluses of both are going to the same market. When however local demands or necessities of the millers compel them to pay a higher price than export markets will warrant, as they frequently do, protection is serviceable to the excess of price they are paying over what exportation will warrant, and that is all. If American freights to Canadian mills are lower than Canadian freights, duties are serviceable to the extent of freight differences. Again in the early fall, on account of the earlier marketing of the Minnesota wheat than the Manitoba product, protection is serviceable till our crop moves. In these three instances and in these alone is protection beneficial to the northwest wheat grower; but one-half present duties will serve all these purposes. From 5 to 9 cents a bushel, year in and year out, will fully cover the ground. The balance of the present 15 cents is useless. It would be a mint of money in the pockets of the northwest farmer, if he could only get present duties on all his imported articles of consumption reduced one-half by his abandoning half present duties against American wheat.

The Tariff Question.

(CONTINUED FROM 1ST PAGE.)

by the shoe manufacturers of the United States, concentrate their attention upon special lines.

It may be interesting here to note the way in which the shoe business in the United States is focussed and centred. Brockton and its adjacent district, make nothing but men's fashionable shoes. Natick, Spencer, the Brookfields and their district, make nothing but Coarse Kip, Grain, such shoes as are worn by agriculturalists, navies, miners, iron workers, etc. They specialize on these. Rochester, N.Y., specializes on women's and misses' fashionable high grade shoes. Some factories here specialize on children's. Cincinnati, O., makes only women's high grade. Philadelphia, Pa., specializes on children's and misses'; (with some women's) of fashionable quality. Stoneham, Mass., on milkmaids' farmers' and working women's durable shoes. Beverly and Salem, Mass., on old women's comfortable. Lynn, Mass., focusses on women's shoes of the cheapest fashionable kind. Haverhill, Mass., on women's slippers and low shoes, also men's dancing shoes. One or two factories here specialize on men's cheap light shoes for southern trade. Auburn, Lewiston and Bangor, Me., on men's fashionable shoes. St. Croix, Me., (actually on the Canadian border line) focusses its enormous production entirely on men's cheapest stylish shoes. New York City, on the finest grades of women's shoes, and a few factories on the finest grades of men's shoes. Newark, N.J., the very finest grades of men's fashionable shoes. Scattered towns through New Jersey group with Philadelphia, and make children's and misses' shoes.

Everywhere we find the United States manufacturers specializing, and nowhere do you find a shoe manufacturer attempting to make all kinds. I remember remarking upon this to a Canadian shoe manufacturer, who showed me the enormous variety of footwear he was obliged to make to get enough work to run his plant. I told him that there were large factories in the United States who made nothing but men's fashionable shoes for \$1.60, and others who make nothing but men's fashionable shoes for \$2.25, and others who made nothing but plough shoes, brogans and creoles for \$1.00, and that they never thought of trying to make all kinds. His reply was that if a Canadian manufacturer should try to do this for a constituency of 5,000,000 people, he would have to close his factory before the end of the year.

Canadian manufacturers of all kinds meet this same difficulty when they buy their materials. They find that the producers of their materials cannot afford to specialize, because their market is so restricted and limited. Thus to one disadvantage there is added another and another, and so ad infinitum. Take for instance, the manufacture of elastic fabrics in Cana-

da. There have been half a dozen attempts made to manufacture elastic for shoes, suspenders, garters, etc. The very first factory to make this class of work on the North American continent was established in Canada, at Coaticook. After a life and death struggle the concern failed, but the machinery and the embarrassed manufacturers went over to the United States. All of the machinery was eventually set to work, and some of the men have by years of labor, acquired a comfortable competency, which, of course, was impossible to them in Canada, simply because the market was so restricted, that to specialize, as they were doing, was impossible.

This industry has been tried in Canada again and again and you will find that the last factory attempting to make elastic fabrics in Canada, which was located at Niagara Falls, has lately moved to the United States. They were compelled to abandon the attempt to make elastic fabrics, although elastic is used in Canada to a considerable extent, but not to the point of supporting a factory for it. So limited a quantity of an infinite variety, could not be economically produced. This concern was one of ample capital and equipment, and would gladly have remained in Canada, if the market had not been so restricted and limited. The same attempt has been made before by several others, but it has in all cases been abandoned. If a Reciprocity Treaty is made with the United States, the article of elastic fabrics should surely be put on the Free Reciprocity list, as there is not a single manufactory in Canada.

And surely the British in Canada, who have tried, or are now trying, to build up Canada, are entitled to our consideration above and before those who have stayed at home and know little by experience of the needs and conditions of the country. The loyal love of those men who have spent hundreds of thousands of their hard earned dollars in trying to establish their industry in Canada, surely deserves to be recognized. I have talked with hundreds of British born people in the United States between Maine and Oregon, just south of the border line, and their experience in Canada has led them to the same inferences which I have here drawn. It has been in their case invariably the impossibility of economical specializing in the so restricted and small market of Canada, which has been, directly or indirectly, responsible for their failure. Remember that these men were, many of them, first induced to come to Canada from their British homes, by the glowing accounts and printed prospectuses so vigorously circulated in England, claiming that Englishmen with money should try Canada. As well bring water from England and try with it to fill a Canadian sieve, or keep Canadian flies from United States molasses by drawing a line or building a wall. They have tried her, and lost their time and money both, and many of them are beginning again much lower down the ladder than they started. Surely these people, with practical experience of the needs of the situation, deserve to be heard and considered, reciprocally, more than those brother Britishers who stayed at home, and have not, so far, been willing to lend an effort to build up Canadian industry. These are specimens; there are hundreds of others.

What is true of these two manufacturing industries is known to be true of the raw materials they consume. With the low prices for which their materials of equal quality are obtainable in the United States, their machinery and most of their materials have to be got from across the border. There is no doubt whatever that the reason for the difference in cost is the fact that in the United States concentrated specialization has effected important economies which are impossible in a country drawing its life from only 5,000,000 people. The manufacturer in Canada must do all kinds of work, be practically "Jack of all trades," in order to employ his steam engine, and the factory equipment.

So far we have examined only the disastrous effect of a restricted market upon the manufacturer. But the Canadian farmer is to be considered. He represents a large percentage of the population, and he has wares to sell no less than his city brother. And right here a strong side light is thrown upon the question by a reference to the very large number of British-born among the population of the United States, who want the produce of the Canadian farmers. I may venture to speak for this class, being a representative of them myself. I am one of those Englishmen who, having tried in vain to find scope in Canada, came to the United States and did well. We do not sufficiently realize that the entire population of Canada is only equal to the approximate number of British-born persons living in the United States. Here is a practical duplicate of the Canadian market just over the borders, whose trade is almost wholly lost. This large representation of the British race in the United States is really only a fraction of those who are of British descent, for of the great population of over 70,000,000, 46 per cent (32,200,000)

claim British ancestry and recognize England as their first mother country.

Now this great British descended constituency in the United States are very apt to give preference to the products of the Canadian farmer. Let me mention a few of the overlooked productions—the things lost from view in most considerations of the question. The fruit of the north is luscious, and it ripens at a time when fruit grown further south is ordinarily getting to be past its season. The late cherries, late strawberries, and late plums, would easily be in great demand, while the black currants and gooseberries, which are not grown in the United States, would find a quick and profitable market. I believe the British in the United States would prefer to drink Canadian beer made from Canadian malt; they would give a decided preference to Canadian Club Whiskey, and Canadian cheese. Have you ever thought how Canadian wares now get preference with the millions of Britishers in the United States, and how they would prefer to the Canadian wares, if they could get them without discrimination; that is, if Canada had the Laurier freest trade relations with the United States? Canada would then do manufacturing many times what she does at present. The manufacturers of Canada are entirely wrong to assume that under the "freest trade relations with the United States," Canada would not hold her own in manufactures. Facts abundantly show that manufacturing to the largest extent is always done in "that climate that is best to labor in." That is why the north of Europe and America do the most of it. Quebec, Montreal and Toronto have the best climate in the world to work in, and if they could get a market of 75,000,000 of customers, Canadians may be confident that they will get their share of the work, and get prosperity in proportion, and not have to send one-fifth of her entire population, and that composed of her most vigorous young men and maidens across the border to get work, prosper and propagate there. In this whole question the fault does not lie with the Canadian people. They are not idle or shiftless or inefficient. They are the best brain, brawn and sinew of the best races. The fault lies in the fact that, commercially, they are "blotted out." Take any 5,000,000 group of people on any continent—pick the group anywhere—corner them up in this manner, and see if the result is not the same. It is not the people. Neither is it the country. Why should not Toronto stand just as good a chance in the continental market as Detroit? Detroit is only just across the Canadian line, and this is so with a great number of other prosperous U. S. cities scattered along just below the Canadian line—Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Buffalo, Rochester, Toledo, etc., etc. These cities are practically identical as to the location with the few cities of Canada. But with a market of 75,000,000 of customers. Let Canada secure this market, and then, instead of devoting her attention to producing for the 5,000,000 now in Canada, she can focus her agencies on the business of the 70,000,000 of people who are just south of the line.

I must not trespass longer on your time, but may I, in closing, venture, without presumption, to say what is in the minds of millions of the British race, both in Canada and the United States, as they follow your beneficent plans. You are believed to be the destined commercial savior of Canada. You are looked upon by Canadians as the country's best hope. We trust that you will not let the mother country seduce you with an empty title. England's greatest men—Gladstone, Herbert Spencer, and their brilliant company—refused titles for themselves. They were perfectly willing that others should have them. Indeed, Gladstone gave order for them by the dozen, as good Queen Victoria orders jewels or Indian shawls; but, for himself, Gladstone knew that his unwritten patent of nobility ran straight through the history of his great achievements, and was countersigned in the heart of every true Englishman all over the world. Yet we have noticed, time and time again, when there has come up a "champion of this people," that he has been called home to London, and won over to British interests by the retainer of a title. We hope you will stick to Canada. Remember that the Canadians gave you your opportunities, and now, supported by their appreciation of your great success, we hope you will continue to give to Canada your undivided allegiance, keeping both eyes watchfully open to the interests of the Canadian people. The man or country, that cultivates successfully its own domain, is the best hope of mankind. If you, Mr. Laurier, will look out for Canadian trade interests, there are plenty of Britishers at home who will look out for the British trade. Be satisfied with Canadian applause. We have so often been disappointed, just when we felt sure we had a real champion, to see him enticed to London, and offered an empty title, for which Canadian interests have so often been relinquished. How would it be if our Mayor and Governor Pingree, who

has worked for "our good, sure and entire," was sent for, to London, and given an empty title, practically on the understanding that he would work for London interests instead of the interests of Detroit and the United States. Canadian interests are not always identical with English ambitions. "Yet every one of our great, self-governing colonies possesses the power to protect against England its nascent industries—a power that even mills and the straightest laced of the ultra Free Trade schools have admitted to be only just and necessary."

"Every one of our colonies uses that power freely; and it is a mere commonplace to say that the British Parliament would never dream of interfering. That it is admitted that if we were to interfere, we would be repeating Lord North's colossal blunder, when he choked off the thirteen original United States colonies, and should run the risk of destroying our colonial Empire." (Extract from an article by Sir Roper Sethbridge, K. C. I. E., Article on Indian cotton Duties and Imperial Federation, page 274, Oct., 1896, in Imperial Asiatic Quarterly.)

No! Keep close to the Canadian people. Do nothing to jeopard that complete confidence which they have in you. Work out the problem of Canada's future commercial prosperity untrammelled by class partisanship and English interests. Work for the people at large, for the whole people, and your victory and your reward are assured.

T. G. CRAIG,
Detroit, Mich.

THE FAMINE FUND.

The Fund at the office of the Montreal Star for Famine Sufferers in India has turned thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000). An average of \$1,700 a day for twenty days, the largest fund in the history of Canada. The churches and schools by the hundred are contributing to the Star Fund.

RHEUMATISM

Its Cause and Cure.

A poisonous Acid in the Blood, which needs removal.

Only one means for a radical cure.

Rheumatism is a blood disease, due to the presence of uric acid—a poison—in the system, and it is only by the removal of this pain-producing poison, that a radical cure can be effected. Acute rheumatism is hereditary, and thus it is that young children are often victims to this torture. The use of liniments, embrocations and outward applications, may give temporary relief, but can never cure, for the poison is in the blood, and until it is expelled, rheumatism, sciatica and neuralgic pains will continue. Scott's Sarsaparilla cures rheumatism by removing the cause—by neutralizing and expelling this poisonous acid. In chronic cases, this medicine reaches the source of the disease as no other medicine can. It gives energy and vigor to the organs that sustain life, the forces that make the blood. For the nervous troubles of youth, for the debility that precedes old age, for ladies in their severe ordeals, it is without a peer.

Scott's Sarsaparilla is a concentrated compound of the finest medicines known to modern medical science. The dose is from one half to one teaspoonful and during its use the ordinary vocations are not interfered with.

**DR. FOWLER'S
EXT. OF**

WILD STRAWBERRY

**HAS A RECORD
OF
40 YEARS OF SUCCESS
IT IS A SURE CURE
FOR
DIARRHOEA, DYSENTERY,
CHOLERA, INFANTUM
AND ALL
SUMMER COMPLAINTS
in Children or Adults.**

PHOTOGRAPHY

Special reduction in Photographs, Portrait Frames, etc., from cabinet up to 18-22, for one month only to clear out stock for spring repairs. Latest styles Frames will arrive in a few days.

**A.B. THOM'S
STUDIO**

Miller Block, Brandon.

**BANKRUPT
...STOCK....**

NATION & SHEWAN'S

In a few days we will open up an enormous stock of Staple and Fancy Goods bought from the great wholesale stock of McMaster & Co., Toronto.

Our buyer who is now securing the Eastern market for the latest styles and bargains, secured a large portion of the above mentioned stock at a very low rate on the depot. The invoices are here, and the goods now in transit. We will require every available corner to accommodate the new coming goods and this enormous purchase of bankrupt stock. Returning in winter goods must be put out at any price. For goods will be sold for the next 15 days, in many cases at half price, and in all cases at less than a normal market's cost. Ladies' Asahs, Asahs, regular \$2.50 and \$3.00 of \$1.50. Ladies' Grey Lamb Coats, \$6.00, \$4.00, \$3.00. Ladies' Walkable Coats, regular \$5.00 \$3.75. Coats \$4.00 and \$2.00 for \$2.50.

For Caps, Mitts and Gloves at most half the regular prices, and if you are thinking of a Fur Coat or next season, this is your opportunity, as we find it necessary to pack them away earlier than usual.

WINTER HOSIERY. All lines of Ladies' and Children's Hosiery will be cut to cost mark to clear.

Ladies' and Children's Underwear at tremendous reductions.

Special values in Table Linens, Towels and Towelling. Blankets, Capes, Etc., down. Quilts, special reduced prices for 15 days.

Flour Oatmeal, Linseed meal, etc., at 8 1/2 cts. special 5 cts. per bushel.

Large Curtains from 25 cts. to \$1.00. Window Shades that wash well for 60 cts. we sell for 40 cts. Oil Cloths and Trimmings from 25 cts. to \$1.00.

Gents' Furnishings. Special suit in New Suits, New Hats, New Ties, New Braces, New Hosiery, and styles in Christmas, Fine Felt Hats, etc. An elegant range of Men's and Boys' Overcoats, special prices. Men's Heavy Ulsters and Early Spring Coats, heavy \$8 for \$5.

Men's and Boy's Clothing. For the next 15 days, every day, will be cut lower day in these departments. Hundreds of Men's and Boy's suits marked down to clearing prices. Men's and Boys' Overcoats, special prices. Men's Heavy Ulsters and Early Spring Coats, heavy \$8 for \$5.

Men's Underwear and Top Shirts will not last long at the prices we are prepared to take for them.

Special lines of New Waterproof Coats for ladies men.

25 dozen Blouse waists—the latest American styles. Drop in and see them.

300 New Spring Jackets imported from Bayreuth, Cuspari & Co. of Berlin, Germany, are now open for inspection.

**BRANDON'S
BARGAIN STORE**

NATION & SHEWAN

ABOUT THIS BIG EARTH.

Were All the Dead Resurrected it
Would Not be Crowded.

THESE ARE ASTONISHING FIGURES.

Earth's Inhabitants of 6,000 Years Could
All Comfortably be Housed in Texas
But Be Wary of the House 4,000: People
May Have to Extract Food Directly
From the Elements.

Suppose there were to be a general
resurrection of the dead—that all
the human beings who have ever
lived were to be simultaneously re-
endowed with life—what then? Could
they be housed? Could they even find
standing room on this earth? Or
would it be necessary to use the sur-
face of the moon as an annex?

The answers to these questions show
that this is a pretty big old earth
after all. They show, too, that if the
earth's land area were not utilized as
perfectly as the fertile area of poor
old Egypt is now utilized, all the
human beings that could have existed
within the last 6,000 years or there-
abouts—the world's age from the first
stamped-out man to the present—
could not only find room in abundance, but in all proba-
bility could actually be furnished
with enough to eat by the cultivation
of the soil.

According to the estimate of the
Royal Geographical Society, of London,
the land area of the earth amounts
to 14,338,000 square miles, while the
population is a little less than a
billion and a half to be exact, 1,487,
500,000, or twenty-nine to the square
mile.

At the time of the death of the
Roman Emperor Augustus, in A. D.
old Rome, quoted by Mullah, the
world's most accomplished population
expert, says there were only 54,000,000
human beings in existence, rather less
than one-twentieth of the present
population.

In 1650, the year the Pilgrim
fathers and mothers landed on Ply-
mouth Rock, according to Mullah, also
quoted by Mullah, the population had
increased to about one billion. In 1800,
the average length of human life
was about thirty years, and the popu-
lation was about 1,000,000,000, or
about forty-eight and eight-tenths
per cent. every 231 years. Now, it is
happening as the world grows, that a
population of 1,487,500,000, or about
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of England and considerably below
the supporting power of Egypt, as
exemplified by conditions actually ex-
isting at this time. It is true that
the area of Egypt is given as 400,000
square miles, while the population is
only 6,750,000. But the fertile ter-
ritory in Egypt amounts to only 5,500
square miles, so that the population
there supported is really 1,250 to
each square mile, and it is not likely
that the limit has even yet been
reached.

If this be a possibility, and I shall
try a little further on to demon-
strate that it is, there is no immedi-
ate prospect of the overcrowding of
the earth. The world's population
predictions of certain pessimistic sci-
entists. Still, a time must come, un-
less the world's population shall be
brought to a standstill, when its sur-
face will be as crowded as it would
be in the event of the literal resurrec-
tion of all the dead.

One would need to be gifted with
the power of prophecy to say when
this time will come, but at the pres-
ent rate of increase it will be not far
from A. D. 4,000. Since the earth's
population now increases a little more
than tenfold of every forty-two gen-
erations, or about 1,250 years.

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Roman Emperor Augustus, in A. D.
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HE FAVORS ARBITRATION.

Ingersoll Denounces War and Advises
Segregating Criminals.

Ingersoll delivered a lecture in New
York the other night which was causing
much comment. Besides his pointed
hits at anti-arbitrationists and other
epigrammatic remarks. Here are
some of them:

"The greatest human being that ever
lived on this earth wrote a line which
is the crystallization of wisdom,
"There is no darkness but ignorance."
To that I add, "There is no light but
intelligence."

There never was and there never
will be in this world any such thing
as chance or accident. Nature will
never be interfered with from with-
out. Every brain is a field where nat-
ure sows the seeds of thought, and
the crop depends upon the soil.

Credulity is no longer a virtue, to
doubt is no longer a sin.

The debt of Christendom, mostly for
war, is now nearly thirty thousand
million dollars, and the interest on
that debt is about \$6,000 a day. If
we wish to do away with war, we
must provide for the settlement of
national disputes by an interna-
tional court of arbitration.

Hope for the future depends on the
intelligence of the present. Man must
not waste his energies in endeavoring
to accomplish the impossible.

Murderers, those who belong to the
dangerous classes, those who are so
formed by nature that they rush to
the crimes of desperation, should be
imprisoned for life, or they should be
put upon some island, some place
where they can be guarded, where it
may be that by proper effort they
could support themselves: the men on
one island, the women on another.

And to these islands, I would send
professional criminals, those who have
deliberately adopted a life of crime
for the purpose of supporting them-
selves, the women upon one island, the
men upon another. Such a people should
not populate the earth.

The time will come when the truly
intelligent man cannot be happy, can-
not be satisfied, when millions of his
fellow men are hungry and naked.

To civilize the world, to hasten the
coming of the golden dawn of the
perfect day, we must educate the chil-
dren; we must commence at the cradle,
at the lap of the loving mother.

HINTS FOR JINGOES.

Punch Devotes a Little Attention to
Yankee Chauvinists.

The high jinks of the jingoes in Con-
gress have drawn fire from the other
side, and the London Punch, in this
issue, under the title "Minding Their
Own Business."

The American Senate, having post-
poned a resolution asking the Eng-
lish Government to permit the British
ambassador to visit the United States,
will probably proceed to discuss
the following questions:

Should Spain continue to exist?
Ought the west front of Peterbor-
ough Cathedral to be re-erected in
steel and concrete?

Is it desirable to be allowed in the Ger-
man army?
What should be the law as to a
"place" for being in England?

Should the anti-Semites in Vienna
be muzzled or not?
Should there be a new street from
Holborn to the Strand, and shall the
houses on this street be two stories
high and decorated as in Chicago?

Ought gambling at Monte Carlo to
be suppressed?
Is kleptomania on the increase in
England?

Should Russia be allowed to send con-
victs to Siberia?
Can Hyde Park be improved by an
elevated railroad from Kensington to
the Marble Arch?

What can be done to hurry up the
French Academy, which began a dic-
tionary one hundred and forty years
before the Declaration of Independ-
ence, and has not finished yet?

Should the spelling of "neighbor,"
"perfector," "center," and "theater,"
be made compulsory in England?
How does the treaty of peace be-
tween Italy and Abyssinia conform to
the Monroe doctrine?

Should the Chinese be compelled to
dress in black coats and tail hats like
respectable American citizens?
Should the Behring Sea fisheries
award be paid?

It is expected that the last resolu-
tion will be indefinitely postponed; it
is even thought that it will never be
proposed.

EPITAPHS FROM RHODE ISLAND.

Pact and Poetry From Old New Eng-
land Burying Grounds.

Some queer epitaphs are found in
the old graveyard attached to the
meeting house in what is known as
the Balton neighborhood, in Cumber-
land Township, R. I. The meeting-
house was built by President Gar-
field's great-grandfather, Elder Bal-
ton.

Over the grave of a wife who died
in her twenty-fourth year are en-
graved these words:

"Age, go to the grave of buried
love; the last fond look of the glaz-
ing eye turned upon us even from
the threshold of existence, faint, fal-
tering accents struggling in death
to give one more assurance of affec-
tion."

A stone for a little child bears
these words:

He dropped into our world
To taste life's bitter cup,
But turned his little head aside,
Disgusted with the taste and died.

A husband has poured out his sor-
row in the following lines:

"My loving mate was taken from me.
Though took by him who had a right
To call me mine when he saw fit.
Another old burying ground is at
Abbott's Run, in the same township.
Here one man wished to be left in
peace by his headstone bears these
lines:

"My day is past—my sun is set. I
have gone to my grave. Pass on,
stranger, and disturb not the ashes
of the dead.
In memory of a young wife in her
twenty-fifth year was this epitaph:

The pale consump-
tion Gave the fatal blow.
The event was mortal.
Though the effect was slow.
For a little child nearly three years
old this was inscribed:

With the scarlet fever I was slain,
And in a conqueror coming bath
reign;
But death my Saviour conquered
hath,
And I shall live again.

A weeping willow is carved on the
stone above these words:
"Fare not, kind youth, this monu-
ment bust.
But mourn in silence o'er my sleep-
ing dust.
Like you, once youthful, vigorous
and gay,
I was untimely snatched my
life away;
Learn hence, ye gay, that life's a
transient flower,
That grows, that blooms, that withers
in an hour."

FACTS ABOUT MOTION.

Garrett P. Serviss Illustrates a Law by
the Flight of a Cloud.

Garrett P. Serviss, in discussing the
curiosities of motion, has this to say:
"The following curious fact is
worth noting in connection with this
discussion: Anything that moves east-
ward, whether it be a cloud, a rail-
road train, or a steamship, is con-
tinually gaining upon the rotary mo-
tion of the earth. The comparison
with a moving train is apropos. Sup-
pose the train is speeding eastward at
the rate of fifty miles an hour, and
that at the same time a passenger,
travelling on the front of the cars, is
running in the same direction at the
rate of five miles an hour. The actual
eastward motion of the passenger, as
long as he continues to run, will be
equal to his own motion plus the
motion of the train, making all to-
gether fifty-five miles an hour. So
if we select a parallel on the earth
where the rotary velocity of the globe
amounts to a thousand miles an hour,
and start a steamship sailing east-
ward along that parallel at twenty
miles an hour, the actual eastward
motion of the ship will be at the rate
of 1,020 miles an hour. In other
words, the ship will gain twenty
miles on the earth every hour, and
if it could continue to travel regu-
larly in a straight line without in-
terruption it would in about fifty
days gain one complete rotation
of the globe. Put a cloud in place
of the

LOCAL NEWS

School Board meeting on Friday.
Fancy dress carnival at Victoria rink to-night.

Senator Kirchhoff went to Winnipeg on Saturday.
Miss Findlay, of Rapid City, visited in the city this week.

The best hockey sticks at Cliffe's bookstore for 40 cents each.

The clerks beat the printers with hockey sticks on Monday night, score 3 to 1.

Mrs. Jas. A. Smart and family left for their new home in Ottawa on Saturday.

We are having a taste of the lion but hope for the lamb at the end of the month.

Rapid City farmers are agitating for an extension of the N. P. from Portage to the former place.

Mrs. R. W. Currie, who has been visiting for a short time in Brandon, returned to Souris on Friday.

42 below on Thursday morning and 10 below on Friday and yet Manitoba's weather is not considered variable.

Mr. Robt. Smith returned from the Kootenay country last week and is enthusiastic over the "golden west."

As we go to press an exciting game of hockey is on between Winnipeg and Brandon juniors for the championship.

"Scout" Coulter in a five-mile race in the Souris rink beat Fred Stripp, of this city, by four laps of the large rink.

Mr. John Orr, of Souris, spent Sunday in the city, on his return from Ontario where he spent the past few weeks.

The market reports of farm produce for the week are as follows: Wheat, 54; oats, 15; barley, 16 to 18; butter, 20 and upward; eggs, 25.

Mr. John Bonner, of New Hamburg, Ont., arrived in the city on Thursday's delayed train to visit his daughter, Mrs. D. M. McMillan.

Rev. Jas. Woodsworth, of Huntingdon circuit, spent a few days with his parents last week remaining for Grace church church concert.

Thursday's express from the east did not arrive until after six Friday morning owing to one of the cars becoming detached east of Port Arthur.

Rev. A. Semmens occupied the pulpit of the Congregational church Sunday evening. Messrs. Atkins and Bowring supplied the Baptist pulpit.

Coal of a good quality is reported to have been found near Peterboro, Ont. and on the Upper Ottawa. Surely Canada is the mineral country of the world.

The boys choir of St. Matthew's, which has been under training by the Rector for a few weeks, led in the singing on Sunday in a very creditable manner.

Rev. W. McLean, who supplied for Rev. Henry during his summer holidays, received a call from Oak Lake Presbyterians and was induced there last week.

Rev. A. T. Robinson, who was for several months connected with the Times newspaper of this city, is now permanent pastor of the Baptist congregation at Regina.

Mr. Sears Mott, aged 66 years, died at his home, corner Van Horne and 10th street, on Monday, March 5th, after a long illness.

The collections on Sunday in the Methodist church were in aid of the India famine fund. The offerings were in the neighborhood of \$100, which amount will be made up and forwarded to the governor-general.

A copy of the Grippe published in St. John, N.B., in a brand new dress, is to hand. It is a neat newsy magazine printed on superior paper, and is devoted to trade and travel, as its name might suggest. It has some fine illustrations of the old maritime city.

The farmers in the district lying between Souris and Boissevain have petitioned for a branch of the N. P. R. at Belmont to run to Melita, which will give near markets for some of the best districts in the country that are now from twelve to eighteen miles distant from elevators.

The C. P. R. propose to build their new Rat Portage docks at the foot of Matheson street, running southeast towards the property of the Rat Portage Lumber company, in the vicinity of the present branch line. The dock would be for transferring passengers and freight.

Owing to the publication of a very interesting correspondence from an American to a British question we are unable to give space to legislative and other important news, but we trust, as the dailies now circulate largely, even in the country, our readers will pardon the omission in this, a local weekly.

Mr. I. R. Strome, of the Strome & Whistler Co., left last week for eastern markets on a purchasing tour. He will be present at the millinery openings in Toronto, Montreal and New York, and will pick up choice selections of goods and novelties for the various departments of their large establishment.

Messrs. Thompson, Colville & Co. have recently purchased the Coombs & Stewart block, corner 9th st. and Rossier, and will have it remodeled giving office accommodation on the upper floors. Messrs. Young and Budd as announced last week will occupy the new vacant store about March 15, which they will open with a full and choice lot of groceries.

Mr. Freer will give the story of Ben Hur beautifully illustrated with lime light views on Friday 5th, in the city hall, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. This promises a rare treat as the story is full of interest, the seventy odd views each having a story of its own which will be given descriptively by Miss Alita Paisley. Many local views of Christian workers in connection with the Y.M.C.A. will be put on the canvas.

Souris has a potato famine.

Miss Jennie Carbett left the city on Sunday for the Gilbert Plains.

The United States senate held a session on Sunday last—press of business.

A curling bonspiel opens at Rapid City to-night which continues until Friday night.

The service in St. Albar's, Oak Lake on Sunday next, March 7, will be taken by Mr. J. S. Breyfield.

Remember the clearing sale at Cliffe's bookstore. Many lines of goods going at half actual value.

The bachelors of Souris held their second annual ball on Monday of last week which was a very successful affair.

It is said the attorney-general's department has not dropped the Holland murder case yet. Some quiet work of investigation is still going on.

Mr. D. M. McMillan has received the appointment of the agency of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Co., formerly represented by Jas. A. Smart.

The Hudson's Bay company are to build a fast freight steamer for the company's service on the Lake of the Woods. The boat will be 30 feet keel with beam in proportion.

One hundred and forty Galicians from North Austria arrived in Winnipeg on Saturday. Thirty-three had to be vaccinated by the health officer. Their destination is Edmonton.

H. Mitchell, the agent for "Our Native Herbs," begs to announce that he will not be able to call at every dwelling in the city, therefore, those who are anxious to get a box of the great medicine will please call at the Queen's hotel before the 10th inst.

Mr. Greenwood, of the Douglas creamery called at our office during the week and asked us to inform Mr. Jas. Bonfield through our paper that he did not write the correspondence which appeared in our issue of Feb. 11, under Douglas news. He also wishes us to say that he has no knowledge of who did write the article referred to.

The generosity of the Manitoba farmer is shown in the contributions to the famine fund by municipalities and country points, and indeed Manitoba in general takes no mean place in the list of givers. The farmers of Franklin set a good example by donating a car of wheat. It was sold for \$270.00 and the cash was forwarded to the Lieut. Governor.

A young English lad named Herbert Bliss was committed for trial by Mr. Doyle, J. P., of Beulah, for theft of \$5, which had been subsequently returned to its owner. His Honor Judge Cumberland dealt leniently with the boy as it was a first offence, and as he had repaid the wrong as far as possible he was let off on suspended sentence with some kindly advice for the future.

The Western Agricultural and Arts Association held their first regular meeting on Friday, Feb. 26th. Mr. S. A. Bedford occupied the chair, and Mr. D. H. Scott acted as secretary. The following gentlemen were elected as directors by the shareholders: Messrs. W. J. Lindsay, J. A. Christie, J. Hanbury, P. Payne, T. E. Kelly, J. W. Fleming, W. Ferguson, R. M. Matheson, J. Henderson, A. McNeil, S. A. Bedford, J. C. Harrison, Robt. Reid, Robt. Hall and D. M. McMillan. Mr. D. H. Scott was appointed secretary until a permanent secretary is appointed. The next meeting will be held on Friday afternoon, March 5th.

GRAND CONCERT.

BY GRACE CHURCH CHOIR OF WINNIPEG.

As was expected the concert given in the Methodist church Thursday evening by Grace Church Choir, Winnipeg, was a musical treat to the music loving citizens of Brandon. The large choir under the leadership of Mr. Tees, one and all showed careful training and fully sustained their reputation gained on former visits here. The Ladies' Aid of the Methodist church, under whose auspices the concert was given, are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts. The church was well filled with a thoroughly appreciative audience. Brandon's orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. Otto Hennberg, opened the concert with an overture, "Stradella," a high class selection, but rendered in a style that showed the ability of the leader and the members of the large orchestra. The singing of the choruses and part songs by the choir was good and was heartily applauded, but the solos, duets and quartettes by the different members was the chief attraction. Mr. Hanby has on former occasions delighted Brandon people with his beautiful tenor voice, and as the first soloist of the evening in "By the Fountain" fairly captivated the audience, and gave a gracious response to a hearty encore, as did also most of the singers. Mr. Bailey has a wonderful bass voice, and used it to advantage. His deep bass notes adding a charm to the choruses. Of the ladies taking leading parts too much cannot be said. Miss Forsyth is well known in musical circles in Manitoba, she has a clear soprano voice and with Miss Puller sang a very pretty duet. Miss Pace created a great impression in "Diana," which received a hearty encore. The ladies' quartette was the novel feature and perhaps the hit of the evening, the four parts being well taken, the bass being the subject of much favorable comment. Miss Mathias, possessing a clear voice, took the solo in one of the choruses in a pleasant style. The orchestra concluded the long programme with a waltz "Jolly Fellows" in a style that proved that Brandon's quota was at least the equal of Winnipeg's talented people. From comments we have heard it seemed to be a mutual admiration concert. The ladies will have the reward for their earnest efforts in the church's welfare of having given Brandon a great treat and an addition to the church treasury of about \$100.

THE ANTI-SEPTIC MEDICINE CO., London, Ont., W. A. Jenkins, Manager, Lock Drawer 512.

One good lady representative wanted in each locality.

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One good lady representative wanted in each locality.

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City Council.

The regular meeting of the Council was held in the council chamber, city hall, on Monday evening last. Present the Mayor and Alds. M. McKenzie, Pilling, McIlwaine, Coldwell, Fleming, Kelly and P. McKenzie.

Minutes of previous (special) meeting were read and confirmed.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From D. M. McMillan—asking the lowest rental the City Council will take for the Opera house for term of one year.

From F. C. Paterson—on behalf of R. E. Dundas, for a refund of taxes to the amount of \$25.96 on lot 16. Referred to Finance committee.

MOTIONS.

Coldwell—Kelly—That the city solicitors be instructed prepare a contract between the city and hospital respecting the construction of the proposed sewer and following the terms of the proposition of the Council made to the Hospital board—Carried.

Coldwell—Kelly—That the Chief of Police be instructed to see that there are no chairs or seats be placed in the aisles in the Opera hall during entertainments held there, and that all seats be kept free and clear of all obstructions during entertainments. That in future whenever any licensee of the hall sells tickets or seats at \$1.00 per seat or over the clerk be instructed to collect as rent, in addition to the present rental, minimum equal to 70 per cent. of the gross receipts per day taken by the licensee for any entertainment held there—Carried.

Pilling—McKenzie—That McKenzie's account for wood be settled on the following basis:—

Ald. Pilling introduced a resolution offering a certain basis of settlement of Mr. McKenzie's wood.

Ald. P. McKenzie advocating that settlement of some kind be effected.

Pilling—McKenzie—That Mr. McKenzie's account for wood be settled on the following basis:—That 10 cords be paid for at \$2.75 per cord, and that such portion of said 176 cords requiring re-splitting be so re-split by McKenzie to the satisfaction of engineer at station, the balance of wood he paid for at contract price, viz: \$3.00 per cord on certificate of measurement supplied by engineer. This offer to be paid without prejudice—Carried.

Coldwell—Kelly—That in consideration of the Western Agricultural and Art Society establishing their grounds upon the old Brandon Agricultural Society grounds and improving the same by new buildings, etc. This Council propose releasing the mortgage held by the city upon such grounds, and the grant of \$500 proposed for current year be applied towards the new.

INQUIRIES.

Ald. P. McKenzie—If anything had been done with McKenzie's wood committee. Ald. Coldwell replied that Mr. McKenzie had received an offer from the Council. He received in the meantime a communication from the city solicitor, stating that there was an agreement and that the city should make a compromise of some kind, not unfavorable to either party.

Mr. Christie was in attendance at the Council and interviewed them on behalf of the Agricultural Society, as to what the Council will do in the way of granting the society a reasonable sum of money to make improvements or buy a new site, erect thereon new buildings.

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used by millions of mothers for their children while teething. It is a most reliable remedy for all ailments of children, and is the only remedy that will cure them without pain or danger. It is a most reliable remedy for all ailments of children, and is the only remedy that will cure them without pain or danger.

It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures Diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States. Price 25 cents a bottle. Sold by all druggists throughout the world. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

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WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (MENTIONING THIS PAPER) AND BUY BY MAIL.

He Goes Straight Home



have an appetite for, and that's the kind we sell—at wholesale prices too.

now since the wife began buying the groceries here. He knows that a relishable meal is always waiting at the proper time, and if there's anything that will induce a man to be at home at the proper time, it is the demands of his stomach. Fresh, pure, clean, properly prepared food is what men

Liverpool Salt, 224 pound sacks, each \$2.25
Rock Salt, per pound 2c
Gillett's Magic Baking Soda, 1 pound pkts. 10c
Gillett's Magic Baking Soda, 1/2 pound pkts. 5c
Borax Crystals, per pound 12c
Pulverized Borax, per pound 13c
Bath Bricks, each 8c
Ideal Blue, per pound 20c
Colmans Azure Blue, per pound 24c
Ball Blue, per pound 10c
Clothes Pins, per dozen 2c
Diamond Dyes, per pkt. 8c

SPECIAL.

We have about three dozen tins of Genuine French Mushrooms and the tins are a little rusty, but the Mushrooms are in first-class condition. These goods are regularly sold at 25c per tin. Our catalogue price is 21c but we will sell these at 15c per tin. They are a bargain.

ON AND AFTER SATURDAY, MARCH 6th, OUR STORE WILL BE CLOSED AT 10 O'CLOCK SATURDAY NIGHTS.

Smith & Burton,
THE CASH GROCERS
MACDONALD BLOCK
ROSSER AVENUE...
TELEPHONE 223.

Our warehouse is for wholesale and mail orders only.

D. M. McMILLAN

Fire, Life and Accident INSURANCE

Houses for Sale and to Rent

Farms for Sale—Estates Managed—

MONEY TO LOAN

Special Agent Confederation Life Association.

Office lately occupied by J. L. LAFONT, ROGERS, Hon. Jas. A. Smart, and BRANDON.

S. BIGG.....

TRANSFER, WOOD AND COAL.

Orders to be left at Munich's store, between 8th and 9th Sts. Telephone 59.

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To Toronto, Montreal and all points west on the Grand Trunk system.

Tickets on sale Dec. 5th to 31st—good for three months, with stop-over privileges returning.

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FINEST TRAINSERVICE.

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EXCURSIONS

Lowest one way and round trip rates to the Pacific Coast and all California points. The old established Transcontinental route. Through Pullman Tourist Cars to San Francisco for the convenience of second-class passengers.

QUICKEST TIME.

FINEST EQUIPMENT.

For Tickets and further information apply to City Offices, 486 Main Street, Winnipeg or at Depot, or write H. Swinford, General Agent, Winnipeg, or J. P. Brisban, Depot Office, or to J. C. Todd, City Ticket Office, Brandon.

BRANDON'S BUSIEST CENTER

The Swing of Trade is Here
Crowds of Shoppers Swarm upstairs and downstairs on every Floor of this immense Store.

This Brisk Between Season's Business.

Is putting this Store in the best possible shape for the coming trade. In regulating the stocks there are host of Bargains creating. Goods you are richer for buying and we are better off for having a Room is what we must have for our immense Spring Importations.

ALL WINTER DRESS GOODS are laid out to go AT ONCE.

The balance of our Fur Wraps and Coats will go out at less than Manufacturers cost. Piles of odd Winter Goods such as Blankets, Quilts, Flannels, Wraps, Flannelets, etc., will be pushed out at once.

ALL Lines of Men's, Youths' and Boys' Winter Suits and Overalls be closed out at prices that will pay you to snap at.

WE ARE JUST ADVISED that our Mr. Rankin has secured a line of the very choicest goods from the bankrupt stock of A. McManis, Toronto, one of Canada's leading wholesale Dry Goods houses. These are bought as such, as will enable us to sell them at LESS THAN WHOLESALE PRICES. They will arrive early in March, when we will have the most gigantic sale of Choice New Seasonable Goods Brandon has seen. Full particulars will be made public in a short time.

IN THE MEANTIME our clearing sale of all Winter Goods kept humming till every sign of winter has disappeared from the Store.

On the Second and Third Floors.

You are confronted with the largest stocks of Furniture, Carpets, House Furnishings in Manitoba. Here are bargains you should not miss. Carpets are higher in price for spring in the World's Markets. But here are lower than they have ever been.

We will for the next few days sell you all grades of Carpets at less than they can be imported for from this world's best markets.

JOHN CROSSLEY & SONS, Halifax, England, has become a household word for good Carpets. We have exclusive control of their goods in Brandon and Western Manitoba.

BUY THE BEST when they cost you no more than poor goods elsewhere.

WE STILL have a few of those O-k Bedroom Suites, regular \$55.00, for \$18.00 and a nice Carved Hardwood Suite for \$10.99, worth \$15.00.

Couches, \$15.00 for \$8.50. Lounges, worth \$7.50 for \$5.00. For Suites, worth \$35.00 for \$22.50. Extension Tables, worth \$7.50 for \$5.00.

BETER CALL EARLY.

WILSON, RANKIN & CO.